

## Administrator's Message- Jayna

The term COVID-19 fatigue is making the headlines and is not just something we read about but something we definitely feel. Here at Divine, we feel the fatigue when we have to cancel annual celebrations like our Auxiliary Fall Bazaar or Memorial Mass. In our personal lives, we feel it when we stay away from vulnerable family members or don't throw a big party for an importance milestone like a graduation or a birthday.

Now is not the time to give up even though these are stressful days, they are also days filled with hope. Identifying something to look forward to is a way to reduce stress and build hope. A small act can give you motivation to keep going; it can relieve your stress by knowing even a short break from the daily grind is upcoming.

Here are some small ideas shared by LeadingAge Minnesota to look forward to:

- \*Catching up with a friend on the phone or via video
- \*Five extra minutes of sleep before the alarm goes off
- \*A favorite meal either delivered or made
- \*Time to stretch, walk or otherwise move your body
- \*A favorite YouTube video or show (something funny is an extra resilience builder. If you need help finding one ask a teenager)
- \*Quiet time in a private space for a few minutes
- \*Sitting on your spot on the couch wrapped in a blanket, watching a favorite show, and eating popcorn. (this is mine)

Our hope helps us realize that there will be a time when Covid-19 fatigue will be in our past. Once again families and friends will fill our hallways with the sounds of everyday comings and goings. We won't need to schedule visits and take temperatures. Visitors will be able to hold resident's hands and feel the soothing power of touch and companionship.

In the meantime, I am lifted up by the everyday victories against this terrible illness – the caregivers who find a way to bring joy with them to work, the creativity, resourcefulness and collaboration in the face of problems we have never had to solve before. It reminds us all why we answered the call to be caregivers in the first place.

One sense of hope for me is that I am not in this alone. We are in it together. The residents, co-workers, and families we all have one goal which is to keep everyone as safe as we can, but to also find little things that bring us hope.

## Gratitude for Divine Providence Staff

### Endowment Fund Update

The snow started early this year, and with it, the challenges of travelling and clearing driveways and walkways. The first heavy snow kept some of our staff away from work, but it didn't take long for others to volunteer to cover the open shifts so that all of our Grandfriends would be well-cared for. We are so grateful to the many dedicated staff who "go the extra mile" to give their best each day.

We've gained several new employees in all of our departments since our visitor restrictions started. For many young people, working at Divine is a transitional job – either a first job in high school, or a "weekends and holidays" job during college. Many of our "kids" go on to pursue careers in nursing or dietary, and it's nice to know we've been a part of their career choice.

One of our nursing assistants finished college recently and is now a licensed RN. We are pleased to have him join our nursing team! We have many others who are still in school, and still others we hope will pursue a nursing degree someday.

We also have several employees who have "set down roots" at Divine and care for our Grandfriends each day through nursing, activities, food service, housekeeping/laundry, maintenance, administration and pastoral care. Six of them have worked here for over 20 years! We are grateful to all the people from our community and from nearby towns who have chosen to make a difference in the lives of our Grandfriends by working at Divine Providence Home!

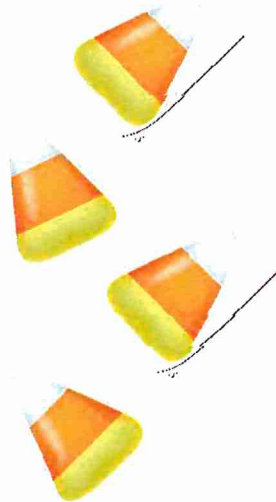
Our deepest gratitude to our benefactors in October:

**Bob and Joleen Hoffmann in memory of John Vait**

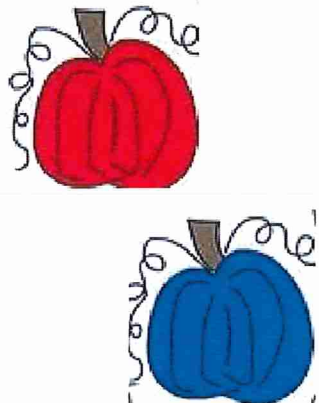
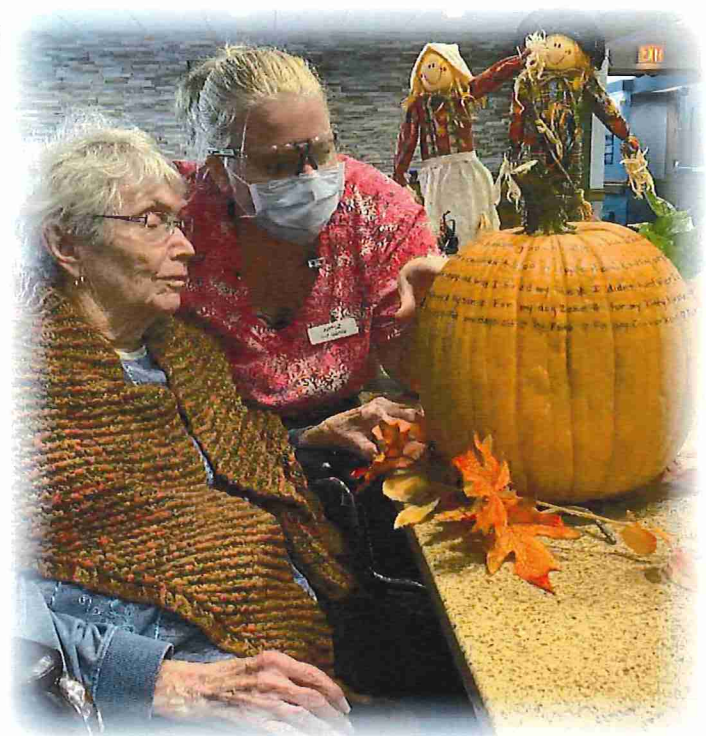
**Brenda and Mike Walden**



Giant Candy Corn  
Toss Game with  
winner Bernice  
Sturm



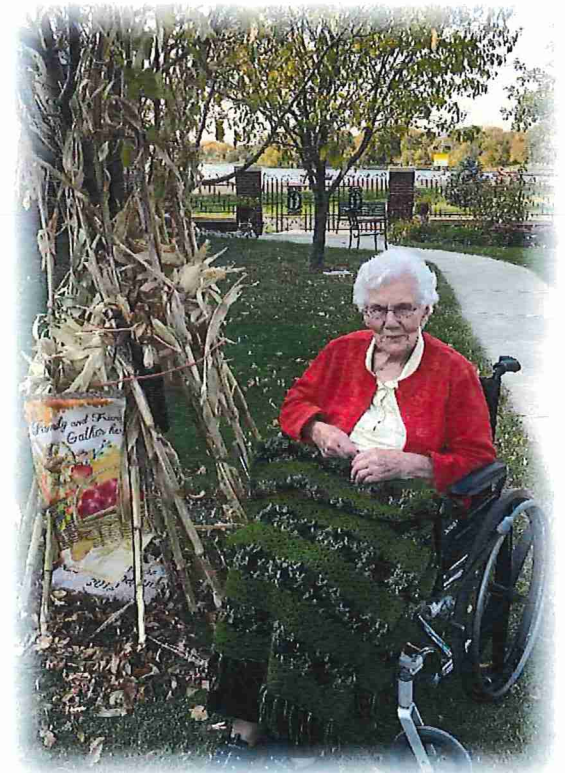
Angie Anderl and  
Justine reading  
from the  
Gratitude  
Pumpkin



Elaine Helget  
preparing  
for Halloween



Bernice Sturm enjoying a  
beautiful fall day provided  
by Leavenworth Lucky  
Clovers 4-H group's fall  
decorations





## Auxiliary News

Greetings! By now, you should have received a letter & raffle tickets from the Divine Providence Auxiliary. As Jayna mentioned in last month's News & Views, our annual Auxiliary fundraiser has been cancelled due to Covid restrictions. As disappointing as that is, we are so encouraged by the response we have received to date! I will be sure to update everyone with the final numbers next month!

For those of you who are not aware, this is the 60th anniversary of the opening of Divine Providence here in Sleepy Eye. The Auxiliary was actually formed October 24, 1959. The sisters arrived on September 30, 1960 & the home opened with 3 residents on October 16, 1960. On November 11, 1960, an invitation to be part of this Auxiliary organization was sent out to the ladies of the community & surrounding areas. On November 17, 1960 the organized group officially began to function under the leadership of Reverend Stephen J. Adrian. A committee was formed to select linens, drapery materials & furnishings for the new home. They also selected and furnished the home with all of the necessary linens for the 40 resident & staff rooms. By October 23, 1960 the day of the dedication of the Divine Providence Community Home, they were prepared for the hosting of the open house.

Wednesdays were dedicated as Auxiliary Days. Quilts were made, embroidery was done & many hand crafted items were made all to be sold at their November fundraiser. Following the Bazaar, a check was presented to the home or gifts were bought such as a stereo, film strip projector, equipment for the beauty shop, therapy room, dining room & yard & garden furniture. They also paid for the resident's cable TV way back then as we still do to this day.

It would have been a prime opportunity to celebrate this 60th anniversary milestone at our annual fund raiser in November but, we will simply postpone that celebration until next year.

In closing, just a reminder that on behalf of the Auxiliary, Myrtyce Remus is selling quilts, fleece blankets, embroidered dish towels, etc. by appointment only in the Marian Conference Room. Please call Myrtyce directly at 701/429-3657.

Thank you!

Christine Hoffmann

Divine Providence Auxiliary President

## Corporate Culture - St. Louis Guanella

During his lifetime, St. Louis Guanella wrote many short books to inspire the faith of his readers and to help them to grow in their love for God. In a book written in 1880, St. Louis Guanella invited his readers to join him in praying the Our Father using the words of its title: "Let us go to the Father!" Below are some excerpts from this book.

"The invitation, 'Let us go to the Father!' is made to you who are the head of a family, and to those who are under you. It is offered to teachers and even to priests, so that everyone may benefit from it to hasten his way toward our common Father who is in heaven.

"Our Lord Jesus Christ came to tell you: 'Let us go to the Father!' And you have answered promptly: 'Let us go because our heavenly Father is the Most High... and let all our brothers in the world follow us, because it is right that all glorify the heavenly Father and do His holy will perfectly.' What will God not do for you? Be assured that it is enough that you want it, and God will fill your soul with wisdom and holiness, and at the same time He will grant you whatever is necessary for your body.

As a pledge that God will not fail you, Jesus Christ himself taught you to pray: 'Give us, Father, our daily bread!'

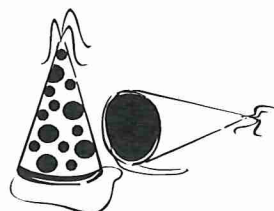
Think of God and He will think of you. Do you think that the God who rained down manna upon the Hebrews is not able to have the fields produce the food necessary to sustain you, His beloved child? Believe me, the Lord who nourishes the birds of the air and clothes the lilies of the field, will nourish you and will clothe you as you deserve."

It was this unwavering faith in God's Providence that gave St. Louis Guanella the courage to continue on the path of charity, opening new homes for those who were poor and alone despite his looming debts and objections of "prudent" advisors. He put all things in God's hands and continued to trust. When we find ourselves weighed down by challenges and fears, we can ask St. Louis Guanella to join with us from heaven as we pray, "Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name!"

# NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Employees: Mary Beussman, Cindy Christensen, Julie Larson, Tasha Martinez, Kimi Rae Schlueter, Asha Schmid, CJ Schmidtknecht, MaDonna Sellner

Residents: Elaine Helget & Velma Hoffmann



Elaine Stueber  
celebrating her 100th  
birthday with festive sign  
made by the Ryan &  
Katie Braulick Family

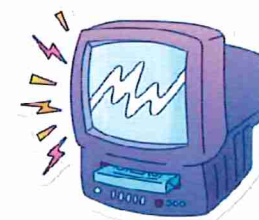


## Directory

Facilities Director.....	Sr. Rhonda Brown
Pastoral Care.....	Sr. Bernadine Ugolini
Administrator.....	Jayna Groebner
Director of Nurses.....	Michelle Augustin, RN
Social Services.....	Shirley Hornick, LPN
Activity Director.....	ShellyRae Zinniel, ADC
Business Manager.....	Sue Thram
Dietary Manager.....	Donna Sellner, CDM
Environmental Services.....	Randy Renner
Health Information Services/HIPAA.....	Deanna Marshall, LPN
Lake Villa Maria Housing Mgr.....	Audrey Milbrett

Divine News & Views is a monthly newsletter issued by Divine Providence Community Home and Lake Villa Maria Apartments, Sleepy Eye, MN. The News & Views editor is Casi Giese

Kathy Wichmann ready to hibernate with generous movie donation from Ann Scharfencamp



## Thank You

\*Ken & Karen Schaefer for bingo donation in memory of Claire McDowell & Mickey Geschwind

\*Diane Willard for bingo donation in memory of Veronica Johanneck, Lorraine Roiger, John Vait & Ruby Seifert

\*Marie Dauer for donation for Chapel candles

\*Russel Christensen family for their donation to Lake Villa in his memory

\*Chuck & Kathy Krzmarzick for their donation of money

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\***Dorothy Christensen** from Gary & Marilyn Vait, Mary Lou Mathiowetz, Mary Dahlen, Debra Distad, Larry & Julie Serbus, Jeff & Jane Distad, Donald & Beverly Mickelson, Carol Fluegge and many other family and friends

\***Mickey Geschwind** from Gary & Marilyn Vait

\***Jerome Koll** from family

\***Doris Schroepfer** from Tom & Shirley Kuck

\***Claire McDowell** from Robert & Joleen Hoffmann

\***Lorraine Roiger** from Maxine Yarnold, Brian & Julie Cook, Melania Meyer, Phyllis Westman, Kathy Varva, Darlene Beranek, Marlene Walter, David Weiss, Gayle Hillesheim

\***John Vait** from Jim & Nancy Kosel, Linus & Shirley Hoffmann



## WISH LIST

We have been blessed to have many generous friends who made it possible to purchase necessary items to enhance the lives of our residents. Thanks to all who have contributed.

### Please consider our following needs:

3 wider beds \$2435.00 each

Replace welcome sign \$4000.00

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On behalf of the Divine Providence Auxiliary, Myrtyce Remus has volunteered to sell the many beautiful quilts, fleece blankets, baby gift sets, pillow cases, etc. they have made directly from Divine Providence Marion Conference Room by appointment only. You can reach her at 701/429-3657. Please enter the building using the Marion Conference Room door, facing south. There will be signs posted.

Anyone interested in volunteering some time to embroidering dish towels for Divine, please contact Mary Sommerfeld at 507/380-2865. Towels will be provided.

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As of August 3rd, 2020, the Regional Ombudsman assigned to our nursing facility is Ms. Sylvia Hasara. Contact information for Sylvia is listed below:

Sylvia Hasara  
Regional Ombudsman  
PO Box 1022  
Lakefield, MN 56150

**Phone: (507) 662-6652**

Fax: (507) 662-5644

**[sylvia.hasara@state.mn.us](mailto:sylvia.hasara@state.mn.us)**